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# MONTGOMERY NEWS

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Montgomery Primary School | Friday 3rd November 2017

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**Welcome back to the second half of the autumn term! We hope you all enjoyed the two week break from school. The teachers received some excellent training (among other things) on using ICT throughout the curriculum and looking at stretching children to achieve greater depth in maths.**

**This half term is an extremely busy one and despite the calendar only just turning to November and the imminent arrival of Bonfire Night, we are looking ahead to (whisper it quietly...) Christmas! This already has some degree of urgency as the end of the autumn term is relatively early, on 15th December.**

**As I am sure you all appreciate, following the Ofsted report in February, there has been, and will continue to be, a heavy focus on raising standards in English and Maths. However, I feel that giving children the opportunity to perform in shows at times like Christmas is one of the things that education should be about; indeed the children learn many other valuable skills through this also. Therefore, this year, EYFS will be performing the nativity and there will be separate Christmas-themed shows for Key Stage 1 and Key Stage 2. Dates and times are at the end of this newsletter. Rehearsals will be starting shortly!!!**

**Jason Edge**

**Head of School**

## **Non- Uniform Day- FORCE**

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Our non-uniform day raised £230.76 for FORCE cancer charity. Thank you very much for your support.

## **Attendance Letter**

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Before half-term, all parents received a letter about attendance. To clarify, although the letters were named they were not targeted at specific parents - all families should have received them explaining the protocol behind absences following advice from the Education Welfare Officer. We apologise for any confusion caused.

## **Tempest Photos**

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On Tuesday November 21st Tempest will be in to take individual photo's. Parents are welcome to come in at 8:15 if they have a child who doesn't attend Montgomery but would like a family photo.

## **Fireworks - 9th November**

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Tickets for our annual firework are currently on sale outside the school office before and after school. Prices are £5 for adults, children £3 and under 3s are free. Gates open at 5pm with the display at 6.45pm. **Please note, admission is ticket only.**

## **Christmas Fair**

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We are in need of raffle prizes for our Christmas Fair. If you have something suitable you could donate, please do so through the school office.

## **Parents Evenings**

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Parents evenings will take place on Monday 27th November and Wednesday 29th November. A separate letter has gone home for this; please contact the office to arrange a time via email [admin@montgomery.devon.sch.uk](mailto:admin@montgomery.devon.sch.uk) or telephone 285240. Alternatively, please come into the office.

## **Parents Forum - Date change!!!**

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Many of you have attended the parents' forums in March and in July where Mr Edge gives updates on issues, particularly around progress towards our Ofsted targets.

This term's will be held on **Wednesday 6th December at 9.00 am and 6.00pm in the studio.** Those parents who have attended them in the past have found them very useful in communicating our direction as a school. We look forward to seeing you there.

## Water bottles

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Please make sure your child has a named water bottle each day.

## Flu Vaccination - Year 4

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For those parents who have consented for their child to receive a flu vaccination, this will take place on Thursday 9th November.

## 2018 Reception Admissions

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For those parents with children due to start Reception in September 2018, applications can be made from 15th November.

## Children In Need

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Children In Need is on Friday 17th November and we will be having a pyjama theme! Please bring in a donation of £1.

## E-Safety

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E-safety is very much a hot topic in education at the minute, as technology becomes ever more sophisticated and children are using it at a younger and younger age. While these advances are wonderful, they do also come with dangers if left unchecked. Therefore, we are delivering e-safety lessons in the classrooms as part of our Computing curriculum and also each week in the newsletter we will give you a link to an e-safety website that you can look at and discuss with your child.

This week's website:  
<http://www.kidsmart.org.uk>

## Year 6 Bikeability

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If there are any more Year 6 parents who would like their child to do bikeability (WB: 27th November) further to the information they have received, please return the paperwork to the office as soon as possible.

## Phonics Workshop for Reception Parents

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A reminder that this will take place this Monday (6th) in the hall at 9.15 - 10.15. The EYFS staff will be explaining how they teach phonics and how parents can help at home. There is also a promise of biscuits!

## Alison Jordan Memorial

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As many of you will know, in June this year we sadly lost Mrs Jordan who was a teaching assistant in EYFS. The team who worked with her have been working on ideas for a permanent memorial to remember her. Therefore, we would like all children to wear something pink (Mrs Jordan's favourite colour) if possible, on Wednesday 22nd November with a suggested donation of a £1 which will be used to buy each child a pebble. Each pebble will be decorated with a picture or message by every child in the school and these will be then used to create a path around a tree in the school grounds. We know that many of you still miss her greatly and we hope that you will be able to support this cause.

## Christmas Cards

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A letter has been sent home explaining how to access your child's Christmas card via the online portal. Please contact the office if you have mislaid this information - money raised will go to the FOMs.

## Christmas Panto

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Children from Reception to Year 6 will be attending the Christmas Pantomime (Cinderella) on Monday 11th December at The Corn Exchange. This has been paid for by the FOMs team and is thanks to your generous donations over the years! We will send our more details nearer the time.

## Theatre Alibi

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Theatre Alibi will be holding a performance of 'Apple John' in our school hall on Thursday 30th November at 7pm. The show is suitable for young and old! Tickets are priced at £5 for adults and £4 for children and are available from the school office.

## School Garden Areas

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If any parents/grandparents/volunteers would like to help de-weed our garden areas e.g., at the front of the school, please contact us!

## Dates for your diary

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**Autumn term 2nd half: 30th October - 15th December**

**Spring term 1st half: 3rd January - 9th February**

**Spring term 2nd half: 19th February - 29th March**

**Summer term 1st half: 16th April - 25th May**

**Summer term 2nd half: 4th June - 27th July**

EYFS phonics workshop for parents: 6th November

Year 4 flu vaccination: 9th November

FOMs fireworks display: 9th November

Children In Need (pyjama theme!): 17th November

Tempest photos: 21st November

Wear pink for Mrs Jordan: 22nd November

Parents Evenings: Monday 27th & Wednesday 29th November

Parent forum with Mr Edge: Wednesday 6th December @ 9am and 6pm

Christmas Fair: 1st December

EYFS nativity: 5th December - 9.30 & 6th December 2pm

Reception to Y6 visit to Cinderella panto @ Corn Exchange 11th December

KS2 Christmas Show: 12th December - 9.30 & 2pm

KS1 Christmas Show: 13th December - 9.30 & 2pm

KS2 SATs week: 14th - 18th May

## Contact Us

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